

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 264784
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY TEXT RECEIVED FROM WH
APPROVED BY S/S:PTARNOFF
-----076342 050241Z /62
O 050212Z NOV 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 264784

NODIS
CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652:YGDS

TAGS: UR, US

SUBJECT: MESSAGE TO BREZHNEV

1. YOU SHOULD DELIVER IMMEDIATELY TO BREZHNEV, OR TO GROMYKO IF BREZHNEV IS NOT AVAILABLE, THE TEXT OF THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FOR BREZHNEV FROM THE PRESIDENT. THE SIGNED ORIGINAL HAS BEEN POUCHED UNDER REGISTRY NUMBER 1279136.

2. BEGIN TEXT. DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: ON THE EVE OF THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOVIET UNION, I WANT TO EXTEND TO YOU PRIVATELY, AS I WILL BE DOING MORE FORMALLY IN A SEPARATE PUBLIC MESSAGE, MY WARM CONGRATULATIONS. I WISH YOU AND THE SOVIET PEOPLE EVERY SUCCESS IN THE EFFORTS TO ENHANCE THE PEACEFUL WELL-BEING OF YOUR COUNTRY.

LET ME ALSO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE WITH YOU MY THOUGHTS ABOUT OUR JOINT PURSUIT OF BETTER RELATIONS

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BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

WE STILL HAVE SOME DISTANCE TO GO TO ACHIEVE AN AGREEMENT ON STRATEGIC ARMS THAT WOULD BE MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY. I HOPE THAT OUR NEGOTIATORS WILL SOON BE ABLE TO RESOLVE THE OUTSTANDING ISSUES. OTHERWISE, UNNECESSARY DELAY--AS WAS THE CASE AFTER FEBRUARY 1976--MAY MAKE IT INCREASINGLY

DIFFICULT FOR US TO REACH ACCOMMODATION. OUR OWN MAJOR GOAL IN SEEKING AN AGREEMENT IS TO ACHIEVE THE SHARPEST MUTUAL REDUCTIONS AND TO INSURE BALANCED FORCES, WITH ADEQUATE VERIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH AGREEMENTS.

I HOPE THAT AS WE MOVE FORWARD ON QUESTIONS OF LIMITING AND REDUCING STRATEGIC ARMS WE CAN AT THE SAME TIME TAKE USEFUL STEPS IN OTHER ASPECTS OF OUR RELATIONS. A COMPREHENSIVE BAN ON ALL NUCLEAR TESTING WILL SLOW THE NUCLEAR ARMS RACE, AND WILL ALSO HAVE A HIGHLY BENEFICIAL IMPACT ON OPINION IN MY COUNTRY AND IN THE WORLD AT LARGE. I AM GRATIFIED BY YOUR STATEMENT OF NOVEMBER 2ND. IT IS AN IMPORTANT AND CONSTRUCTIVE STEP WHICH BRINGS US CLOSER TO AGREEMENT. I WOULD ALSO WELCOME YOUR SUGGESTIONS ABOUT HOW WE MIGHT IMPLEMENT AND VERIFY YOUR PROPOSAL THAT NO MORE NUCLEAR WEAPONS BE PRODUCED.

ONE ISSUE IS OF INCREASING CONCERN TO US. THE CONTINUING TESTS IN SPACE OF ANTI-SATELLITE DEVICES BY THE SOVIET UNION HAVE BEEN CAREFULLY NOTED IN OUR COUNTRY. THIS CONCERN HAS EMERGED IN OUR EFFORTS TO BUILD SUPPORT IN THE U.S. SENATE FOR A SALT AGREEMENT. THIS IS A SERIOUSLY DESTABILIZING DEVELOPMENT WHICH WE HAVE VOLUNTARILY FOREGONE, ALTHOUGH WE WOULD HAVE THE TECHNICAL CAPABILITY TO BUILD SIMILAR SYSTEMS. A VERY EARLY JOINT AGREEMENT NOT TO CONDUCT FURTHER TESTS AND TO FOREGO THIS CAPABILITY

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LET ME ALSO DRAW YOUR PERSONAL ATTENTION TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS WHICH ADVERSELY AFFECT THE WELL-BEING OF THE U.S. EMBASSY'S PERSONNEL IN MOSCOW FROM THEIR REPEATED EXPOSURE TO UNWARRANTED DOSES OF DIRECTED RADIATION. I DO NOT WISH TO RAISE THIS ISSUE PUBLICLY INTO A SOURCE OF DIFFICULTY BETWEEN OUR GOVERNMENTS BUT YOU CAN WELL UNDERSTAND THE REASON FOR OUR DEEP CONCERN.

FINALLY, I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS PRIVATE COMMUNICATION TO EXPRESS THE HOPE THAT THE EVENTS IN YOUR

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DRAFTED BY: S/S-PTRNOFF

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TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

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FOL TEL SENT ACION MOSCOW FROM SECSTATE DTD 05 NOV 1977 QTE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, CAT-C, CHEROKEE 11/05/77, CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES, NUCLEAR WEAPONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 05-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE264784
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: n/a
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 2
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771192/aaaadaxb.tel
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Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 9
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 704550
Secure: LOCK1
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MESSAGE TO BREZHNEV
TAGS: PPDC, MNUC, PDIP, UR, US
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2b859521-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
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